# Strategies for Customizing the Test for Individual Students

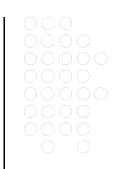


#### CRT-Alt: Structured Yet Flexible

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- Students for whom this assessment is designed vary in how they communicate and respond.
- Test administrator must carefully examine the tasks in advance and make necessary adaptations for individual test takers.

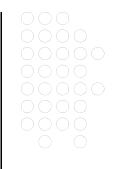


#### Your analysis encompasses...



- Student's communication skills
  - How student receives information
  - How student expresses information
- Task demands
  - Format of question
  - Format of materials provided
  - Response required of student

#### **Communication Supports**

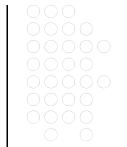


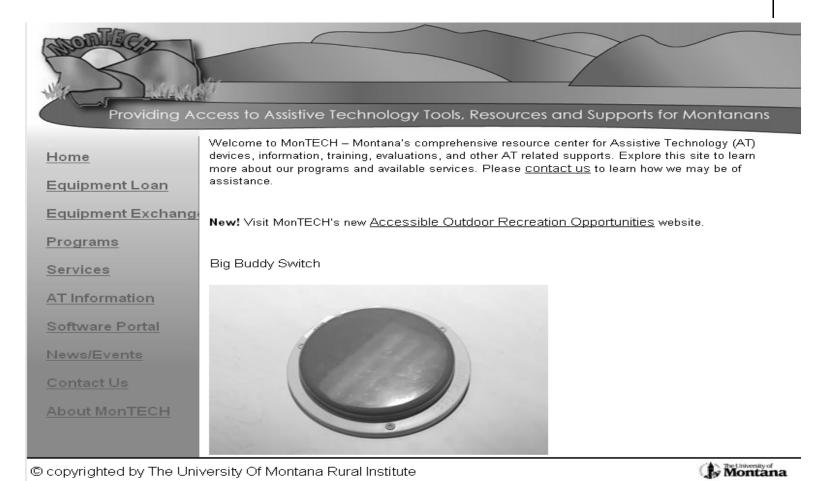


 What system does the student use to communicate on a daily basis?

 Customize THIS system to the demands of the assessment task.

## AT Loan Program Available to Montana Educators





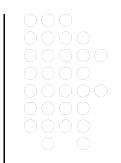
http://montech.ruralinstitute.umt.edu/

#### **Analyze Communication Demands**

- What vocabulary must be available to provide appropriate options for EACH STEP of the test?
- Create displays that are consistent with student's discrimination, sensory, and motor skills.



# Beyond the individual test items...

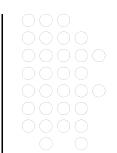


- Consider messages that might be needed throughout the test.
  - I need help
  - I don't understand
  - Please repeat
  - Can we take a break?
  - Yes/No
- Consider having a display accessible to student throughout the test.

#### Test Demands

- Format of question
  - Multiple-choice
  - Yes/No
  - Open-ended
- Task materials provided
  - Is reading involved?
  - Is manipulation of materials required?
- Response required of student
  - Does student have to "say" something?
  - Does student have to "do" something?

## Multiple Choice Questions Represent a Majority of Test Items



4. Display 4 word/picture symbols on the work space.

"Show me the word/ picture/symbol/object that means library." (If library is not available, substitute appropriate term.)









store

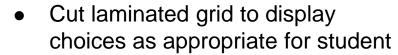
#### Your Analysis

 Will student understand visual choices presented?



- If no, adapt the materials
  - Modify display/size of pictures
  - Use objects





- Use electronic version of materials to enlarge them
- Program communication device with auditory output to enable student to hear choices
- Use real objects





#### Your Analysis

 Can student make pointing response required of item

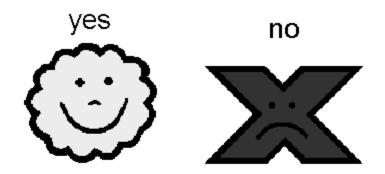


# If no, adapt the response required

- Select display that allows for alternative inputs
- Teacher presents options in scanning format
- Adapt question to require yes/no response
- Present responses in auditory format that student can "stop" with reliable motor response

### Yes/No Responses

- Shift communication responsibility to the teacher
- "Let me show you the choices. Is this the library? Is this the library?











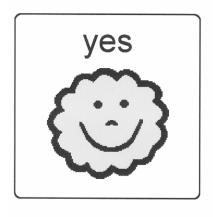


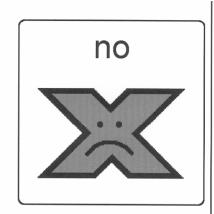
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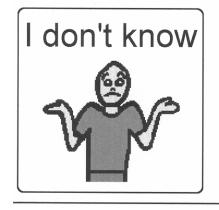
#### Yes/No Question Responses

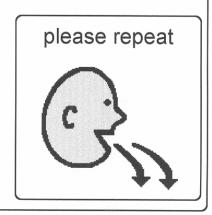






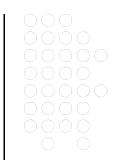
 Use communication supports as needed

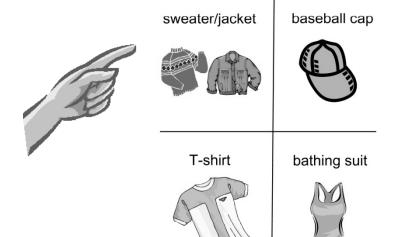






## Student "Stops" Scanning Display



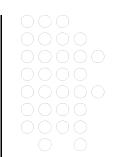


- Teacher points to each picture in sequence
- Student directs teacher to "stop" when the teacher points to the correct response

stop



#### Items Requiring Performance



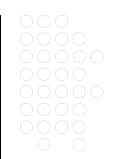
 Display literary materials on the work space and encourage the students to explore them.
 Observe correct manipulation of literacy materials.

"Show me how you use this."

#### Communication Support Strategies:

- Student may look at/point to materials to express response OR
- If the student is unable to manipulate the test materials, ask student to indicate (e.g., "yes"/"no") if teacher is handling materials correctly (e.g., "Is the book in the correct position? Am I going to hit the right button?")

## Example of Scaffolding a Performance Item



- Level 3 = provide additional information
- Level 2 = model correct response
- Level 1 = guide student through correct response

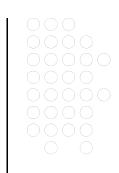
#### Scaffold:

Level 3: Give the student a verbal description of how to hold book/turn on tape. Repeat task request.

Level 2: Demonstrate the correct way to hold/turn on the material. Give materials to student and repeat task request.

Level 1: Assist student to manipulate materials appropriately, saying "This is how you use this."

### Test Administration Setting



- Considerations:
  - Minimize distraction
  - Student familiarity
  - What is room usually used for?